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§7–218.

- (a) In this section, "small business" means a firm that:
 - (1) is independently owned and operated;
 - (2) is not a subsidiary of another firm;
 - (3) is not dominant in its field of operation; and
- (4) in its most recently completed fiscal year, did not employ in its operations more than 25 individuals.
- (b) On application of a person responsible for paying the inheritance tax and subject to § 13-601 of this article, the Comptroller may allow an alternative payment schedule for the inheritance tax, not exceeding a 5-year period, if payment of the tax on the due date would require the sale of a small business or any interest in a small business that passes from a decedent.
- (c) A person may apply for an alternative payment schedule by filing with the Comptroller an application on the form and in the manner that the Comptroller requires.
 - (d) The payment schedule may be in the form of:
 - (1) a payment deferral; or
 - (2) an installment payment plan.
- (e) (1) For each alternative payment schedule allowed under subsection (b) of this section, the Comptroller shall specify the procedures and guidelines, including:
 - (i) conditions of eligibility; and
 - (ii) 1. amount and duration of any payment deferral; or
- 2. amount of and scheduled time for any installment payments.

- (2) If the Comptroller denies an application for an alternative payment schedule, the Comptroller shall mail a notice of the denial to the applicant.
- (f) For each alternative payment schedule allowed under subsection (b) of this section, the Comptroller shall give the appropriate register notice of:
 - (1) the grant;
- (2) the procedures and guidelines specified under subsection (e)(1) of this section; and
 - (3) the responsibilities of the register for receipt of payments.
- (g) If an alternative payment schedule is allowed under subsection (b) of this section, the person responsible for paying the inheritance tax shall pay the tax in accordance with the schedule.
- (h) The Comptroller shall adopt procedures to provide notice about the availability of alternative payment schedules under this section.

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